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COMBATANT COMMANDS INFORMATIONAL SERIES:

USPACOM

A Research Paper
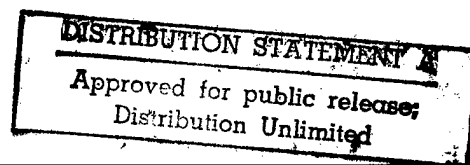
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by

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Abstract

In today's military, the pace of operations no longer allows commanders the luxury of time to train new staff members in the culture and operations of their Area of Responsibility (AOR). The Combatant Commands Informational Series ToolBooks assist commanders by providing a training aid identifying the roles, functions, responsibilities, and Area of Responsibility (AOR) of the unified commands. The primary goal and designed focus of this training aid is to provide a single product (CD-ROM) introducing potential joint staff officers to their specific command. Inbound staff officers, prepared by reviewing this product, arrive on station ready to receive specialized training without needing background indoctrination. Additionally, this product should prove valuable to the military education system as curriculum support material, specifically for the Air Command and Staff College's Strategic Structures, Operational Structures, and Joint Operations courses, as well as the Distance Learning program.

This AY96 research project centered on US Pacific Command (USPACOM). The project team members conducted extensive research including: interviews with command staff and country experts, "surfing" the Internet, and traditional library searches. The team consolidated their work into a "ToolBook"—a hypertext medium presenting graphics and text in an interactive, easily accessible format aimed at enhancing and retention. This volume, and all others in the series of encyclopedia-like products, will be

transferred to CD-ROM for distribution to students, faculty, joint staffs, and the unified

commands.

Chapter 1

The USPACOM ToolBook

Creating the USPACOM ToolBook

Sources

The sources used for the USPACOM ToolBook fall into two categories—those used to document general information about United States Pacific Command (mission, organization, theater strategy, challenges to stability, etc.) and those sources used to compile detailed information about the specific countries located in the USPACOM Area of Responsibility.

USPACOM General Information Sources. Two sources provide the basis for general information about USPACOM: "The United States Pacific Command Posture Statement," USPACOM's policy statement presented to Congress annually, and "Pacific Area Update," an informational briefing prepared by the USPACOM Operations Directorate. These sources are discussed in greater detail below.

The "United States Pacific Command Posture Statement" is a 23-page, single source, comprehensive document which details the political-strategic environment in which the command operates, provides an analysis of the USPACOM AOR, delineates the command's theater strategy, and summarizes command operations. It is presented to

Congress annually by the USPACOM Commander-in-Chief and should therefore be viewed as the authoritative document describing United States Pacific Command.

The informational briefing, "Pacific Area Update," is maintained by the Command Briefing Branch of the Operations Directorate at USPACOM HQ. It is updated at least monthly by the command briefer. It, along with the briefing script, provides an excellent summary of the main points in the USPACOM Posture Statement. The reference version is current as of January 1996.

Information Sources for Specific Countries in the AOR. Researchers used a variety of sources in compiling the detailed information on each country within the USPACOM Area of Responsibility. These sources are listed below. US government sources were preferred over other references.

The *CIA World Factbook* is published annually by the CIA and provides a concise fact list covering several categories of information for its country entries.

The *EUROPA World Yearbook* and the *Kindersly World Reference* are general reference publications with entries on virtually every country in the world. The *EUROPA World Yearbook* entries are extremely detailed and are especially useful for updated information regarding a country's political situation. The *Kindersly World Reference* provides a more graphically oriented look at country-specific information.

The Military Balance 1994–1995 by the International Institute for Strategic Studies was used as the primary reference for country-specific armed forces data. *The Military Balance* provides a concise summary of the military force structure and composition for countries around the world.

The *Area Handbook Country Studies* series produced by the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress are book-length, country-specific publications that exhaustively detail every aspect of the subject country.

The United States Department of State *Country Background Notes* are a series of country-specific, 5–10 page publications which provide basic facts, historical background, economic analysis, and a foreign relations summary of the country in question. In the majority of cases, these publications provided the most comprehensive and up-to-date information available from non-copyrighted material. The *Country Background Notes* series was the primary basis for all country-specific topics.

Methodology

The "USPACOM Posture Statement" provided the design basis for the creation of the tutorial ToolBook as it is the authoritative document regarding USPACOM's policy, programs, and Area of Responsibility (AOR). The ToolBook was designed to conform to the posture statement's topic flow, with the inclusion of additional country-specific information. As discussed in the sources section, researchers used a variety of sources to construct the country-specific entries in the ToolBook all aimed at enhancing the reader's understanding of the leadership, system essentials, infrastructure, population, and fielded military forces of each country in the AOR. This approach conforms to the "five ring" systems analysis method described by Colonel John A. Warden in his 1993 article, "Concepts in Airpower for the Campaign Planner."[1] Finally, the "Pacific Area Update" briefing was incorporated throughout the book to aid in presenting concepts and ideas discussed in the text. With regard to the "nuts and bolts" of the ToolBook design, the ACSC ToolBook template standard was used as a starting point. ToolBook

enhancements in this project include "hot words" for additional information on specific subjects, a hypertext index for quick access, and specialized display functions for charts and maps. This ToolBook's design adheres to the principles of speed of execution, standardized presentation format, and inclusion of genuinely useful information.

Notes

[1] "The Enemy as a System, Concepts in Airpower for the Campaign Planner," John A. Warden, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB AL, 1993.15.

Chapter 2

USPACOM Overview

The USPACOM Overview provides written introduction and background for the hypertext research project, USPACOM ToolBook. Designed as an introduction to the CD-ROM, hypertext format, this product fills the gap in current research technology by providing a written record for future researchers.

Headquartered at Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii, USPACOM is one of five combatant commands with a geographical area of responsibility. Composed of forty-two nations ranging from the United States to the coast of Africa, from the Arctic Ocean to the South Pacific, USPACOM's AOR is a culturally diverse and volatile region.[1] This region's tremendous economic potential, vital mineral reserves, and key strategic waterways make it vitally important to the future of the United States. USPACOM's desired theater end state is supported by four pillars of Asian defense: alliances, regional confidence building, constructive engagement with China, and the framework agreement with North Korea.

The first pillar is our alliances—alliance with Japan and alliance with Korea. These remain the linchpin of our regional security strategy and the linchpin of regional stability in Asia and the Pacific. Both the United States and Japan know our close partnership is vital to the economic and political health of the region and of the world.

The second pillar, regional confidence building, includes the promotion of multilateral initiatives aimed at reducing tensions and promoting peace throughout the region. USPACOM encourages participation in joint military training exercises and joint peacekeeping operations and makes full use of multilateral institutions such as ASEAN and the ASEAN Regional Forum. The ASEAN Regional Forum allows nations throughout the region, including the US, China, and Japan, the opportunity to address mutual interests and concerns.

The third pillar in the theater strategy is constructive engagement with China. The "one China" policy rests on three legs:

- Washington-Beijing relations, built around constructive engagement as outlined in the National Security Strategy and based on the Shanghai communiqué.
- Washington-Taipei relations, which include assisting with Taiwan's self-defense as called for in the Taiwan Relations Act.
- The promotion of healthy Beijing-Taipei relations, based on increased trade, investment, and other peaceful activities across the Taiwan Strait, which benefit regional economy and unity.

The fourth pillar, the framework agreement with North Korea, is designed to prevent nuclear proliferation in the Asia-Pacific region. North Korea currently presents the largest challenge in this area. It will take the combined resolves of the United States, Japan and South Korea to persuade North Korea to stay out of the nuclear arsenal building program.[2] These pillars underlie USPACOM's theater strategy whose major elements are forward presence, strong alliances, power projection, and crisis response.[3]

USPACOM operations over the past year include: Joint Task Force Full-Accounting, Joint Interagency Task Force-West, and numerous military Civic Action Team visits. These operations worked hand in hand with over 200 exercises and multinational training events sponsored by USPACOM last year. Together with our

forward basing in Japan, Korea, and the AOR, these ongoing measures provide the key

elements of forward presence, power projection, and cooperation between allies that

facilitate USPACOM's crisis response.[4]

The overview of USPACOM and discussion of theater strategy as embodied in the

"four pillars" provides the basis for a more detailed investigation of the command.

Chapter Three, "USPACOM ToolBook Outline," provides that detailed investigation

combined with an overview of the ToolBook.

Notes

[1] United States Pacific Command, "United States Pacific Command 1994 Posture Statement," (Camp Smith HI, Office of the Commander in Chief, March 1994).
[2] Ibid.
[3] USPACOM Operations Directorate, "Pacific Area Update" (Briefing, Camp Smith HI, January 1996).
[4] Ibid.

Chapter 3

USPACOM ToolBook Outline

The USPACOM hypertext book is divided into six chapters designed to give the reader a working knowledge of Pacific Command's missions, objectives, organization, strategy, and regional issues of concern.

Chapter One, *USPACOM*, provides a command overview and a brief introduction of the command's mission, strategy, and role in the New Pacific Community as well as a biography of the current commander. The heart of this chapter provides a detailed look at the organizational structure of the command. The remainder of the chapter discusses the AOR, introduces the strategic environment, and sets the stage for specific country analysis.

Chapter Two, *USPACOM AOR*, addresses the individual nations within USPACOM's AOR and groups them into four geographical regions: Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, the South Pacific, and the Indian Ocean. Each nation is reviewed from a macro perspective with the aim of enhancing the reader's understanding of the country's leadership, system essentials, infrastructure, population, and fielded forces.

Chapter Three, *Challenges To Stability*, begins with a general overview of the challenges facing USPACOM. Challenges addressed are economic disparities, political instability, environmental degradation, and expanding military potential. The chapter

continues with a discussion of regional dangers of proliferation, attacks on democracy, and unstable economies. In regional snapshots, the North Korean, Chinese, and Russian influence on stability and security in the region is examined. Other hot spots such as India and South Asia are also addressed. Proliferation of ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction in the USPACOM AOR are overviewed along with the roles of external actors. Other key challenges covered include territorial disputes over the Spratly Islands, India-Pakistan tensions, and continuing increases in terrorism, piracy and drug trade in the region.

Chapter Four, *Theater Strategy*, begins with the strategic overview, briefly touching on the USPACOM approach to regional defense strategy. The bulk of the chapter is organized around four main sections. The *Forward Presence* section details priorities, force packages, the tyranny of distance, and the need for prepositioned equipment. The next two sections deal with USPACOM's theme of cooperative engagement. The first, *Crisis Engagement*, covers the two-tiered Joint Task Force (JTF) approach to regional engagement in crisis situations. The *Peacetime Engagement* section covers USPACOM's standing JTFs and day-to-day operational requirements. The chapter concludes with a discussion of USPACOM's proposal to match resources to strategy by identifying key readiness issues and linking them with key enabling requirements.

Chapter Five, *Exercises & Operations*, overviews exercises and recent major operations in the AOR. One of the most important aspects of PACOM strategy involves the exercise program. USPACOM exercises cover a full spectrum of contingencies, from a Major Regional Conflict (MRC) on the Korean peninsula to Lesser Regional Contingencies (LRC) in the South Pacific Islands. Last year, USPACOM conducted

more than 200 exercises and military training events.[1] Ongoing operations in the AOR include three standing JTFs, Joint Interagency Task Force West (JIATF-WEST), JTF FULL-ACCOUNTING (JTF-FA), and JTF-510.[2] JIATFWEST, based in Alameda, CA, oversees our military air and sea detection and monitoring effort in the war on drugs in the Pacific.[3] JTF-FA is designed to provide the fullest possible accounting of Americans missing from the Vietnam War. Based in Hawaii, JTF-FA operates detachments in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Thailand.[4] JTF-510 performs a classified function for the command. In addition to the standing JTFs, USPACOM provides military Civic Action Teams as a key element of cooperative engagement throughout the region.

Chapter Six, GENERAL INFORMATION, contains several "help" pages regarding the general design of hypertext ToolBooks, as well as specific hints and tips on using the USPACOM Book. The chapter also includes an index and bibliography.

Notes

[1] Joint Chiefs of Staff, "JCS Exercise Program," (Briefing, Pentagon, Washington DC, May 1989).

[2] United States Pacific Command, "United States Pacific Command 1994 Posture Statement," (Camp Smith HI, Office of the Commander in Chief, March 1994).

[3] *Asian Security 1993–1994.* New York, Brassey's Publishing, 1993.

[4] USPACOM Operations Directorate, "Pacific Area Update" (Briefing, Camp Smith HI, January 1996).

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